(d) One third of the current year's allocation is placed at the disposal of the States/ Union Territories in advance for utilization against sanctioned works and subsequent installments are released on the basis of progress and actual expenditure on works.

Cess on cargo

1523. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for levy of cess on all cargo handled in the country, is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the probable rates of cess on cargo;

(c) whether Government would like to consult the Maritime States before finalizing the policy; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the financial drain on State resources is proposed to be compensated?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Four-laning of NH-44

1524. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of highways that have been undertaken to broaden and develop during the year 2007-08;

(b) the status of four-laning of the NH-44; and

(c) the targeted period to complete the four-laning of NH-44?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) On 151 nos. of National Highways (NHs) improvement works including widening and strengthening were undertaken during the year 2007-08. The details are given in statement-I *{See* below)

(b) A total of 577 km. of NH-44 is envisaged to be 4-laned. Out of which, 252 km passing through the State of Meghaiaya & Assam is envisaged to be 4 laned on Build, Operate and Transfer BOT (Toll) basis under National Highway Development Project-Ill (NHDP III). Remaining 325 km passing through the State of Tripura is envisaged to be 4 laned under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East phase-A (SARDP-NE Phase A) on Engineering, Procurement and Construction Contract (EPC) basis. The details of the projects are enclosed at statement II *{See* below) The Detailed Project Reports (DPR) are under preparation.

(c) SARDP-NE Phase A and NHDP III are targeted for completion in March, 2012 and December, 2013 respectively.

Statement-I

Details of Highway undertaken for broadening and developing during **2007-08**

SI. No.	Name of State	2007-08 (upto February 2008)			
		No. of NH(O) Works (Sanctioned)	No. of NHs	Name of the NH	Sanctioned Amount (in Rs. Crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	30	11	4, 9, 16, 18,43, 202, 205, 214, 219, 221, 222	105.62
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	1	52A	10.65
.3	Assam	23	9	31, 37,39,44, 52, 52A, 53, 54, 151	128.04
4	Bihar	14	9	28B, 30, 31, 77, 83, 98, 102, 103, 107	75.67
5	Chandigarh	1	1	21A	3.56
6	Chhattisgarh	29	9	6, 12A, 16,43,78,200,216,217,221	96.96
7	Delhi	1	1	24	14.64
8	Goa	13	4	4 A, 17, 17A, 17B	29.01
9	Gujarat	22	7	6, 8A, 8A-Extn., 8C, 8E, 115, 113	115.47
10	Haryana	13	8	10, 21A, 64, 65, 71.71B, 73, 73A	564.67
11	Himachal Pradesh	7	4	20,21,21A, 22	21.52
12	Jammu & Kashmir	32	4	1A, IB, 1C, ID	171.94
13	Jharkhand	17	7	23, 32, 33, 75, 75Ext, 80, 100	80.00
14	Karnataka	29	10	4,7, 13, 17,48,63,206,209,212,218	733.01
15	Kerala	20	8	17, 47, 47C, 49, 208, 212, 213, 220	713.59
16	Madhya Pradesh	17	12	3, 7, 12, 12A, 59, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86, 86 Extn	848.72
17	Maharashtra	24	8	3,6,9, 16,69,204,211,222	84.06
18	Manipur	16	2	39, 150	74.71
19	Meghalaya	8	5	40,40E, 44, 51,62	50.43
20	Mizoram	1	1	44A	5.12
21	Nagaland	7	3	39,61, 150	29.11
22	Orissa	29	8	5,6,23,42,43,201,215,224	195.77
23	Puducherry	3	1	45A	6.36
24	Punjab	29	8	1, 10, 15,21,64,70,71,95	352.04
25	Rajasthan	25	13	8, 11 A, 11A Extn, 1 IB, 12, 15,65,79, 89, 112, 113, 114, 116	153.97
26	Tamil Nadu	49	12	4, 45A, 45B, 45C, 47B, 49, 49 Ext., 208,209,210,226,227	111.72
27	Tripura	9	2	44, 44A	30.58
28	Uttar Pradesh	75	23	2, 3, 7, 19, 24, 27, 28B, 29, 56, 72A, 73, 74, 76, 86, 87, 91, 91A, 92, 93, 96, 97, 119	682.34
29	Uttarakhand	32	11	58, 72, 72A, 87, 87E, 94, 108, 109, 121, 123, 125	120.83
30	West Bengal	23	6	6,31,35,55,60, 117	117.40

Statement-II

The status of four laning of Project A7/-44

Portion of NH-44 under NHDP-III BOT(Toll) basis

SI. No.	State	NH	Stretch	Length (in Km.)	Status
1	Meghalaya	44	Shillong-Jowai	32	DPR in progress
2	Meghalaya	44	Jowai-Assam border	104	DPR in progress
3	Assam	44	Meghalaya border Tripura border	116	DPR in Progress
			SUB TOTAL:	252	

Portion of NH-44 under SARDP-NE Phase Aon EPC basis

SI. No.	State	NH	Stretch	Length (in Km.)	Status
1	Tripura	44	Churaibari-Manu	90	DPR in progress
2	Tripura	44	Manu-Agartala	105	DPR in progress
3	Tripura	44	Agartala-Sabroom	130	DPR in progress
			SUB-TOTAL:	325	
			GRAND TOTAL:	577	

Proposals for Development of Inter-State Roads

t l525. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposals of Rajasthan to give sanction in principle, to eight works of Rs. 32.55 crores for development and improvement of roads of Inter-State and economic importance are lying pending and;

(b) if so, by when the sanction, in principal, would be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The Government

f Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.